

The Shepherds [Luke 2:8-20]

We are going to celebrate Christmas this week. Although its on the Calendar for the 25th of December every year. The coming of Jesus into the world as a baby in a manger

should be celebrated every day of the year. We will talk about the baby Jesus so but I want to focus in on all the characters of the Christmas story, and tell you some of the exciting and helpful things we can learn

Have you ever heard a fella say 'I'm not a real Dr but I play one on TV, well I'm not a real shepherd, but I do play one in a church' was play before. Now Shepherds are not the

main people in the Gospel stories but they are important there are many lessons about the Gospel

I. The Good news was ⁽⁸⁻¹⁴⁾ shown to them

Now you might think that a shepherd was important. But not really. It was the Jews. No body wanted "Dirty Jews" So if you had world wide great news, the last place you would take it would be to shepherds. But God did (apply). It was fearful news. Scared at first (apply). But they soon realized it was good news! Gospel news (apply)

Angels told them where they could personally find it! King of Kings... could he find by then? (apply)

II. The Good news was ⁽¹⁵⁻¹⁶⁾ listened to by them

What do you think they did? That was a surprise now get back to work! No they Listened

Not only hear, but listen: they reacted to the news. They left their sheep. They turned away from what they treasured most. Repent to turn. (Apply). Vs 16. Eventually they did not have a tough time finding Jesus when he left (Apply). Just as the angels of old gave the news to the shepherds, so I to you! Come! Turn!

III The Good news was ⁽¹⁷⁻¹⁸⁾ told by them. They found the baby Jesus. Their life would never be the same. They had heard of him so long but now they knew him personally (Apply). They then began to tell. They began to gossip the gospel. This great good news was not to be kept a secret. When I was 9 yrs old, 21 yrs (Apply). And people listened! They wondered they stopped and thought about the news that was given to them (Apply).

IV The Good news was ⁽⁵⁰⁾ lived out by them. Now when they met Jesus they did not stop being shepherds. They had to go back & see to their obligations. Yet their life would never be the same. (Apply) They went back praising and thanking God for the news they had seen and the Jesus they had met. And that's the last we see of them. That's the way every person that meets Jesus should live their life. That's what this church is about.

V Close - Some of you today may be like shepherds. No you are not wearing bath robes and a shepherd's crook. But hear good news and